THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) and (b) The consumption of tea in 1985 was estimated at around 415 M. Kgs. with the estimated increase being 15 M. Kgs. per annum. Thus at the current rate of annual incremental consumption the requirement for domestic consumption by 2000 A.D would be of the order of 640 M. Kg. which is comparable to the current production of 657 M. Kgs. However, it is necessary to increase the production in order to both maintain and increase our level of exports and to take care of increases in incremental consumption which may go up on account of various factors.

Measures envisaged for increasing tea production include short term measures like optimization of inputs, medium term measures like irrigation and drainage, infilling & rejuvenation of the bushes and long term measures like extension planting and replanting.

961. [*Transferred to the 12th March 1986*].

Violation of Equal Remuneration Act, 1976

962. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the violations of the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976; if so, what steps Government propose to take to make the violation of provisions of the Act cognizable by courts on receipt of complaints from institutions notified by the Central and State Governments; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take not only to give more teeth to the existing Act but also to the creation of a separate machinery for speeding up and inreasing detection of offences under this Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) Violations of the Equal Remuneration Act are, at present dealt with through the Central and State Government machinery. Government is also considering amending the Equal Remuneration Act to extend the scope of the courts for taking cognizance of complaints relating to such violations.

(b) Creation of a separate machinery for the enforcement of labour laws relating to women as well as certain amendments to the Equal Remuneration Act are under the consideration of the Government.

Disbursement of loan by banks in Madhya Pradesh

963. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the banks which have been entrusted with the disbursement of loan to the poorer section of the society in the counry, particularly in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) what is the amount disbursed through these banks during the last two years, year-wise; and

(c) what are the methods adopted for the disbursement of these loans and how the same would be recovered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) Reserve Bank of India in February 1983 issued guidelines to all Scheduled Commercial Banks directing them to increase the flow of credit to weaker sections so that by March 1985 these sections account for 10 per cent of the aggregate credit of the banks. As at the end of December 1985, the credit to weaker sections was 10.2 per cent of the aggregate bank advances.

(b) The advances of Scheduled Commercial Banks to weaker sections in the State of Madhya Pradesh as at the end of December 1983 and December 1984 were Rs. 135.95 crores and Rs. 210.04 crores respectively.

(c) Banks have been advised to follow prescribed procedures as per Reserve Bank of India's guidelines for identification, appraisal, sanction as well as for recovery of all loans including those to weaker sections of the society.

Credit-Deposit Ratio in the Eastern Region

964. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the credit-deposit ratio in the Eastern region comprising the States of West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa, Sikkim and the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, falls short of the all-India ratio; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) As at the end of March 1985, credit deposit ratio of all Scheduled Commercial Banks in Eastern Region comprising of West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa, Sikkim and the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands stood at 53.7 per cent as compared to 69.7 per cent for all-India.

(b) The main reasons for low credit-deposit ratio in the Eastern Region are reported to be lack of infrastrunctural facilities, inadequate and irregular supply of power, non-availability of requisite assets, lack of assured irrigation etc. together with factors like inadequacy of appropriate staff, lack of proper guidance from controlling offices, and lack of publicity for various credit linked scheme.

Tax arrears against big bnsiness houses

965. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the particulars of the big business houses/individuals in the country against whom tax arrears of rupee one crore and above are due at the end of 31st Dec., 1985; and

(b) what steps Government have taken to recover the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) The information to the extent possible is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

बिहार में बैंकों द्वारा पूंजी निवेश

966. **श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव :** क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि बिहार में में राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों में निक्षेपों के बड़े भाग का राज्य के बाहर निवेश किया जाता है और इस तरह से बिहार को पिछड़ा राज्य बना दिया है ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि 3300 करोड़ रुपये की जमा राशि में से राज्य में केवल 1300 करोड़ रुपये का निवेश किया गया है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो इस राज्य की उपेक्षा किए जाने के क्या कारण हैं और बिहार को राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर लाने के लिए क्या उपाय किए जाने का विचार है ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जनार्दन पुजारी) : (क) और (ख) : मार्च, 1985 के अन्त में बिहार में सभी अनुसूचित वाणिज्यिक बैंकों की जमा राशि 3297 करोड़ रुपये और उनके द्वारा दिये गये ऋणों की राशि 1379 करोड़ रुपये थी।